Message Text

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14-11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SCCT-01 IO-10 DHA-02 /077 W ------ 063961

R 031436Z JUL 75 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5230

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT PINS ET

SUBJECT: STUDENT-DIRG MEETING

- 1. MISSION OFFICER WAS EYE-WITNESS TO JULY 2 MEETING BETWEEN STUDENTS AND "DIRG REPRESENTATIVES" ACCORDING STUDENTS OUTSIDE MENELIK PALACE. SOME 400 STUDENTS HAD GATHERED AND TWO OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WERE SEEN CONFERRING WITH TWO SOLDIERS NEAR PALACE GATE. OFFICER LATER LEARNED THAT STUDENT GROUP CONSISTED OF 10TH GRADERS SCHEDULED FOR ZEMETCHA SERVICE COMBINED WITH OLDER ZEMETCHA PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE NOT YET BEEN DISPATCHED TO COUNTRYSIDE. IDENTITIES OF DIRG REPS UNKNOWN.
- 2 THE STUDENTS SAID THEY TOLD DIRG REPRESENTATIVES THAT THEY WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN UNLESS (A) COUNTRY IMMEDIATELY RETURNED TO CIVILIAN RULE AND (B) ZEMETCHA PARTICIPANTS IN COUNTRYSIDE GIVEN DEADLINE FOR TERMINATION OF THEIR SERVICE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WE DO NOT KNOW DIRG REPLIES TO THESE DEMANDS BUT PRESUMABLY THEY

MUST BE CONSIDERED.

3. BRITISH COLLEAGUES TELL US THAT SANFORD FAMILY MEMBERS EVICTED FROM MULU FARM BY GROUP OF ARMED ZEMATCHOCH FEW DAYS AGO.ZEMATCHOCH OPERATING ON THEIR OWN, EXTORTED MONEY FROM BRITISHERS. UK EMBASSY CURRENTLY SEEKING INTERVENTION OF EPMG AUTHORITIES TO SET THINGS RIGHT BUT PROSPECTS NOT RPT NOT BRIGHT. AUTHORITIES IN EFFECT ADMIT IN CONVERSATIONS WITH BRITISH COLLEAGUES THAT MANY ZEMATCHOCH "OUT OF CONTROL."

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